

of the occupational groups are too small to yield reliable data, so in the Table of results recorded below all groups are ignored in which the number of deaths from alcohol was less than ten.

The best basis of comparison of death rates is to take the "comparative mortality figure," which shows the number of deaths per year in a standard population of 71,005 men, aged twenty-five to sixty-five. In the 1900-02 census this number of men suffered on an average exactly 1,000 deaths, but by 1910-12 the expectation of life had so greatly improved that the deaths fell to 790. This is the average mortality figure, the healthiest occupational groups showing one of less than 400, and the unhealthiest (the barmen), one of 1,724. For purposes of classification, the various occupational groups have been averaged according as their comparative mortality figure was under 600, or ranged from 600 to 699, 700 to 799, and so on.

The 790 deaths experienced by the average standard population (of England and Wales) included 4 deaths from "alcoholism" and 13 from "cirrhosis of the liver," and for our purpose it is best to combine these two numbers, and say that there were 17 deaths attributable to "alcohol." From the data in the Table we see that of the various occupational groups of skilled and semi-skilled workmen (which numbered 47 in all), those with a comparative mortality figure of less than 600 suffered only 7 deaths from alcohol, those groups with a mortality figure of 600 to 699 suffered 10 deaths, and those in the succeeding divisions suffered 13, 15, and 16 deaths respectively. That is to say, the alcohol mortality increased steadily as the general mortality increased. Expressed as a per-